

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this Application and entry of this Amendment after Final are respectfully requested. The proposed amendment places the claims in better form for appeal. Additionally, this amendment addresses items brought up by the examiner in the final office action. In view of the amendments and following remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-33 were pending and rejected and claim 80 was allowed. With the Amendment, claims 25-27 and 29 are amended. Claims 62-80 are canceled. Claims 29 and 30-33 are unchanged in the application and no claims are added. Reconsideration of this Application and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 25-33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,733,281 to Nardella. Claim 80 has been allowed over the Nardella Patent. With this amendment, the features of claim 80 have been included into independent claim 25, and claim 80 has been canceled. Applicants submit that claim 25 is also patentably distinguishable from the prior art.

Claims 26-33 depend from patentable independent claim 25. Claims 26, 27, and 29 have been amended to track the amended features of claim 25. By virtue of their dependency to a patentable claim, claims 26-33 are also patentably distinguishable from the prior art. Applicants respectfully request removal of the rejection of claims 25-33 based on 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Also, withdrawn claims 62-79 have now been canceled.

Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to the claims serve to put the application in condition for allowance and do not raise new issues. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered and that the remaining pending claims be allowed.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2525. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at telephone (763) 505-8418

Respectfully submitted,

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